

The Trustees of Reservations

*Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891*

SPECIAL PLACES

Volume 9, No. 3 ☞ Summer 2001

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FOR MEMBERS AND DONORS OF
THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS



Herminio Isaac stands before his vegetable plot at the Leyland Street Community Garden in Dorchester, one of 39 community gardens The Trustees will help maintain over the next two years.

Trustees Begins Work on Community Gardens in Boston

Standing in the Leyland Street Community Garden in Dorchester, Herminio Isaac grins broadly as he discusses his vegetables. "I like them all," he says, before displaying a seed packet of his favorites: California black-eyed peas. For the past 11 years, the Roxbury resident from Puerto Rico has grown fresh produce at the community garden, where approximately 20 gardeners cultivate corn, sweet peppers, cilantro, and okra. Although Herminio helped clear the one-half-acre garden "rock by rock" over the years, improvements often require special tools and expertise. On this spring day, Trustees Community Gardens Supervisor Joe Ciarametaro and his assistant, Tereck Jamison, are on hand to provide the expertise.

Joe and Tereck are part of a pilot program, currently funded for two years, run by Boston Natural Areas Fund (BNAF) and The Trustees to maintain and improve community gardens in Boston. Two days have been spent already at Leyland Street, trimming boxwood hedges along the garden and using a chainsaw to transform a lot choked with tangled trees into a potential playing field. Today, Tereck is finishing up with a heavy-duty grass mower. "It helps to have someplace safe for kids to play when their parents are gardening," explains BNAF President Valerie Burns, who is on hand with BNAF Community Gardens Manager Jeremy Dick to discuss the early results of the partnership with Trustees Southeast Regional Director Tom Foster.

So far, the results are "very promising," according to Tom. Since early spring, Trustees staff have made improvements at 10

of the 39 community gardens owned and operated by BNAF. At nearby Julian, Judson, Dean Streets Garden, in a mostly Cape Verdean community, Joe and Tereck repaired the brick walkway and a stone wall. After consultation with Tom, they decide to install a drainage area and return with a heavy truck to haul away organic debris gathered by the gardeners. Valerie explains, "Such improvements signal that the garden is a permanent fixture in the landscape." As she surveys the garden, the weeds in one plot cause her to worry that its long-time gardener may have passed away over the winter. If he has, the garden's volunteer community coordinator will assign someone from the waiting list to his plot. "Gardeners know about this place," says Valerie, "but we need to create greater awareness in the community and find more on-site partners."

Several blocks away, at Jardin de la Amistad, the group inspects Joe's pruning job on several mature trees. "It makes a big difference," Valerie concludes, as the light pours into the garden. A neighbor from Nuestra Comunidad, an on-site partner for the garden, stops by, and for a moment everyone pauses to admire the neat, cobblestone-lined garden in the center of busy Dudley Square.

Over the next few months, Tom and Valerie will be working to raise awareness of the partnership and build on-going support. To learn how you can help, contact BNAF President Valerie Burns at 617/542-7696 (bnaf@aol.com) or Southeast Regional Director Tom Foster at 781/821-2977 (tfoster@ttor.org). ☞

KENDALL'S CORNER



The Notion of Assists...

In the game of ice hockey, the player who scores the goal is not the only one who gets credit. The person who helped set up the scoring shot receives what is known as the "assist."

Recently, I took an informal poll at this year's Massachusetts Land Trust Conference and determined that, as a community last year, we protected

approximately 25,000 acres of land in the Commonwealth. Thinking about the effort required to save this amount of land brought the notion of assists to mind.

Last year, The Trustees protected more than 4,000 acres. However, we played an assisting role in more than three-quarters of those acres. For every acre that we protected through ownership or the purchase of a conservation restriction, more than three acres were protected through a direct, substantial assist on our part.

Here are just two of the ways that we play a critical "assist" role in land conservation:

■ **Bridge Loans for Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR).** Currently, 600,000 acres of farmland in Massachusetts are under imminent threat of development. By selling development rights on their land to the state, farmers receive a lump sum of money and reduce their annual tax liability, thus helping to ensure that the land continues to be used for agriculture. However, the state can take up to three years to pay for these rights while the farmer often needs cash and tax relief today. The Trustees often plays a bridge role by buying and then holding a convertible restriction until the state comes up with money for reimbursal.

■ Partnership in the Watershed Campaign in Buzzards Bay.

In a collaborative effort to protect at least 10,000 acres of land, The Trustees is teaming up with the Coalition for Buzzards Bay (a regional watershed association) and many local land trusts. While we will not have an ownership interest in much of the land saved through the campaign, our participation will provide an important, unifying force in the region and will encourage people to act regionally, rather than locally, to conserve landscapes throughout the Buzzards Bay watershed. You can read more about the Watershed Campaign on page 3.

As you can see, the role we play in facilitating or enabling land conservation projects by other groups is part and parcel of how we measure our success. Starting on page 4 in this issue, the Conservation Count will include land that has been protected as part of a Trustees assist.

One word of caution. As important as they are, we cannot focus only on assists. We will continue to work diligently to identify and protect future reservations and, we will look to build strong connections between our reservations and the people of Massachusetts. However, the pace of work by the broader land conservation community must be accelerated, and our assistance will continue to be crucial to our collective success.

Andrew Kendall
Executive Director

The Trustees of Reservations

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Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891*

We invite your articles, photographs, comments, and suggestions. Please send them to:
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Founded in 1891, The Trustees of Reservations is a member-supported nonprofit conservation organization that preserves, for public use and enjoyment, landscapes of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts and works to protect special places across the state. Today, The Trustees owns, manages, and interprets 90 reservations totaling over 22,100 acres of land, and protects more than 12,800 acres through the use of conservation restrictions on 196 parcels of private land. The Trustees of Reservations is not an agency of state government. We rely for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, grants, reservation receipts, special events, and endowments.

For information about becoming a member or to request a change of address, please contact the Membership Office at 978/524-1858, write to us at the address to the left, email us at membership@ttor.org, or visit our website at www.thetrustees.org.

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Please recycle this newsletter by passing it on to a friend or donating it to a school, library, business, or wherever it might be read with interest.



www.thetrustees.org

For up-to-date information about visitor season, hours, and fees of reservations, visit our web site!

LAND CONSERVATION

Coming Soon...A Partnership Campaign to Protect Land Around Buzzards Bay

Like many communities in Massachusetts, the Buzzards Bay region is defined by its landscapes. Scenic shorelines, cranberry bogs, coastal farms, and large woodlands provide a strong sense of place for the region's 360,000 inhabitants. These attractive—and ecologically important—landscapes are expected to contribute to the doubling of the region's population within the coming decade. *With less than ten percent of the Buzzards Bay watershed west of the Cape Cod Canal permanently protected from development, the projected population explosion could forever alter the landscape.*



Over the next three years,
the Watershed Campaign
could lead to the
preservation of more
than 10,000 acres

of important landscapes,
habitats, and natural
resources in the
Buzzards Bay watershed.

The Buzzards Bay
Watershed Region,
with potential sites
for protected land.

To respond to this threat, The Trustees has recently partnered with the Coalition for Buzzards Bay to plan a regional land protection campaign: The Watershed Campaign. Andy Kendall, Executive Director of The Trustees of Reservations, calls it a natural partnership. "The Coalition began focusing on land preservation to protect the Bay's water quality in 1998. The Trustees' 1999 Land Protection Action Plan directed us to increase conservation efforts in Buzzards Bay, recognizing the growing threats to special places in the region."

Over the next three years, the Watershed Campaign could lead to the preservation of more than 10,000 acres of important landscapes, habitats, and natural resources in the Buzzards Bay watershed. An education facility will be established to provide programs and promote stewardship of the land. Newly protected open space will be available to the public for passive recreation. Finally, a revolving land conservation fund will be established to assist land trusts working within the region on future land protection projects.

As part of the Watershed Campaign, The Trustees will work to acquire two key reservations. In Wareham, the proposed Theodore Lyman Reserve will provide access to Red Brook, one of the region's most important fresh water fishery resources. Copicut Woods, which The Trustees plans to acquire in Fall River as part of the nearby Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve (see update below), will house the Watershed Campaign's education facility.

Mark Rasmussen, Executive Director of the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, says the Watershed Campaign offers The Trustees and the Coalition a rare chance to bring synergy to the local land trusts and conservation agencies. "We'll rely on partnerships with the ten local and regional land trusts, state conservation agencies, and municipalities," says Rasmussen. "Public sources are expected to account for approximately half of the overall fundraising, meaning that every dollar donated to the Campaign will leverage an additional dollar of public funding."

For more information about the planning stages of the Watershed Campaign, contact The Trustees' Kate Bateman, Director of Eastern Conservation Campaigns, at 781/821-9041 (kbateman@ttor.org) or Steve Sloan, Land Protection Specialist, at 781/821-9524 (selandcons@ttor.org).

BIORESERVE UPDATE

Planning for the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve in Fall River is underway on two fronts. Over a three-month period, a team of consultants conducted community interviews and researched successful programs nationwide to identify key audiences, themes, and options for programming at the proposed visitors center at Copicut Woods. Visit the "Newsroom" section of www.thetrustees.org for a summary of their results. And the management planning team recently held intensive workshops with experts in ecology, water resources, and cultural resources to help develop a draft management plan that will be ready for public comment by fall.

LAND CONSERVATION

News Around the State

NEW RESERVATION

Quinebaug Woods, Holland

Quinebaug Woods is the generous gift of long-time Trustees supporters Benjamin and Margaret Haller, whose family has enjoyed the 37-acre woodland property for several generations. From atop the exposed,

rocky ridge that runs through the center of Quinebaug Woods, views emerge of Blake Hill to the east and Hamilton Reservoir to the south. Large rock formations and a steep hillside extend from the hilltop to the Quinebaug River, where visitors will be able to enjoy a meandering walk under a canopy of mature hemlocks. A large vernal pond at the western edge of the land provides a crucial breeding habitat for amphibians such as wood frogs and salamanders. Located next to the Holland Pond area and near the Leadmine Wildlife Management Area, Quinebaug Woods will serve as an important addition between these two protected properties. The dedication of Quinebaug Woods as The Trustees' 90th reservation is scheduled for this fall.

Contact Chris Rodstrom, Land Protection Specialist, at 978/840-4446 (crodstrom@ttor.org) for more information.



Benjamin Haller and his wife Margaret recently donated 37 acres in Holland.

CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

Baker/Nielsen Property, Concord and Carlisle

John Baker and Nina Nielsen graciously donated a conservation restriction on their 10.3 acre property on the town lines of Concord and Carlisle. This property is adjacent to the approximately 1,200-acre protected Estabrook Woods.

ASSISTS

Throughout its history, The Trustees of Reservations has assisted other organizations, municipalities, and state and federal governments in conserving landscapes of scenic, historic, and ecological importance. To reflect this increasingly important aspect of our work, the Conservation Count will now include the acreage protected through direct assistance from The Trustees. To qualify as an assist, our effort must include substantial assistance such as successful mediation or negotiation with landowners, conveyances of conservation land to other qualified entities, pre-acquisitions of conservation restrictions for governmental agencies, or participation in joint fundraising efforts.

Applying these criteria, we have counted a total of 9,302 acres that have been protected through our direct assistance over the past 110 years. Recent examples of Trustees assists include:

Westport Rivers Winery, Westport

206 acres at the Russell Winery and Buzzards Bay Brewery (see *Special Places*, Spring 2001) were protected by means of a pre-acquisition of an agricultural preservation restriction (APR). Additionally, three gifts of land totaling 12 acres were facilitated through our Westport office on behalf of the Westport Conservation Land Trust.



Russell Winery in Westport.

Stillman Farm, New Braintree

The Trustees' affiliate, the Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT), purchased an APR from farmers Glenn and Genevieve Stillman on two parcels totaling 14 acres. The purchase provided the financing needed for the Stillmans to purchase the larger 12-acre parcel, which was on the market. The MLCT has resold the APR to the state.

Chucklebrook Farm, Worthington

The Trustees granted a loan of \$50,000 to the Hilltown Land Trust (HLT) to enable HLT to purchase an APR on 80 acres of Chucklebrook Farm in Worthington. The loan will be repaid when HLT transfers the APR to the state.

FUNDS NEEDED FOR HISTORIC STURBRIDGE SITE

The Trustees has signed a one-year option to purchase the two-acre Robert Crowd home site in Sturbridge. From 1840 to 1860, Crowd, a man of African-American and Native American heritage, worked the graphite mine at nearby Tantiusques Reservation for many years. More than 50% of the required \$30,000 has been raised. To learn how you can help, contact Chris Rodstrom, Land Protection Specialist, at 978/840-4446 (crodstrom@ttor.org).

conservation count

		ACREAGE PROTECTED
LAND OWNED	90 reservations	22,165
LAND UNDER CR	196 parcels	12,820
ASSISTS	65 projects	9,303
(as of 7/16/01)		TOTAL 44,288

STEWARDSHIP

New Management Plan for Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge

For thousands of people each year, the beaches at Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge on Nantucket Island are synonymous with sun, surf, and solitude. For piping plovers, which nest exclusively on shorelines, these beaches are a matter of life itself. In an effort to better manage nesting shorebird habitat while maintaining continued public access, The Trustees has begun the implementation of a new management plan for the Refuge. The result of an intensive three-month study, the plan calls for a selective reduction in roadways, tighter regulations on dog walking, live trapping of feral cats, and increased public outreach programs.

Historically, visiting the Refuge required driving an over-sand vehicle (OSV) along a network of roadways, sometimes through prime or potential shorebird nesting habitat. Over the past 12 years, the demand for OSV permits has increased by 250 percent. At the same time, harassment of shorebirds by roaming dogs and feral cats has risen. As a result, shorebird breeding success has declined. Despite the potential of the Refuge's nine miles of beaches, piping plovers have struggled in recent years to



Under the new management plan, over-sand vehicles will still be able to access Great Point.

produce enough chicks to create a stable population at the Refuge. And while 30,000 people visit the Refuge annually, there are only about 1,500 pairs of piping plovers worldwide, according to Lloyd Raleigh, Islands Regional Ecologist.

To better manage nesting shorebird habitat, approximately seven miles of roads, many redundant, will be closed permanently. An additional 3,500 feet will be closed seasonally. "But," notes Chris Kennedy, Islands Regional Director, "there are alternate

roadways parallel to the closed sections of road. The plan does not prevent people from visiting the Refuge." The plan also requires that dogs be leashed between April 1 and September 15 and under voice control during the rest of the year. Feral cats will continue to be trapped and sent to the MSPCA for their care.

"I'd say that 90 percent of the people I've talked with understand the need for a new management plan and say that its recommendations and policies make sense," says Kennedy. To inform the local community of the upcoming changes, Trustees staff visited with local fishing-tackle shop owners and distributed free maps and brochures detailing the management plan. Future education plans call for expanded public programs, tours, and on-site interpretation. **For more information on the management plan, contact the Islands Regional Office at 508/693-7662.**

NEW OPENINGS

Hamlin Reservation, Argilla Road, Ipswich

A scenic view of rolling fields and marshland greets visitors to this 135-acre reservation, once active farmland. A short walk along a mowed path through a grassy field leads to a historic dike that connects with nearby Eagle Island. Though you may not spot an eagle, the Reservation's extensive salt marsh, drained by Labor-In-Vain Creek, supports many wading birds, such as glossy ibis and snowy and American egrets. Follow the dike to Eagle Island, where livestock once grazed the island's pastures. Today the island is covered by a white pine, oak, and hickory forest and the cattle are long gone, but you're likely to spot evidence of deer. Hamlin Reservation was the bequest of long-time Ipswich resident Octavia Hamlin.



American egrets and white-tailed deer can be seen in the salt marsh around Hamlin Reservation in Ipswich.

WHEN TO VISIT: Year round, daily, sunrise to sunset. Allow a minimum of one hour.

TRIP PLANNING DETAILS: From Rt. 128 (exit 20A), follow Rt. 1A north for 8 mi. to Ipswich. Turn right onto Rt. 133 east and follow for 1.5 mi. Turn left onto Northgate Rd. and follow for 0.5 mi. Turn left onto Argilla Rd. and follow for 0.2 mi. to entrance and parking (10 cars) on right.

For more information, contact the Northeast Regional Office at 978/356-4351 (neregion@ttor.org) or visit www.thetrustees.org.



RECREATION

20-Mile Tully Trail Nears Completion

After more than a year of hard work, The Trustees is close to determining a route for the last few miles of the Tully Trail, a new 20-mile loop trail in the North Quabbin Region of Central Massachusetts. "We're working to keep the trail in the woods," says Central Regional Director Dick O'Brien, who has worked on the creation of the trail for many years, "and we're committed to securing a route by fall." A trail map with interpretive text will be published by The Trustees in the fall as well.

More than 15 miles of the Tully Trail are currently open to hikers, linking such scenic properties as Tully Mountain and Tully Lake with Doane's Falls, Royalston Falls, and the Warwick State Forest. From the trail, hikers can even access the Metacomet-Monadnock Trail and follow it south to Connecticut or north to Mt. Monadnock in New Hampshire. The Tully Lake Campground next to Doane's Falls in Royalston enables visitors to spend the weekend hiking the trail and paddling.

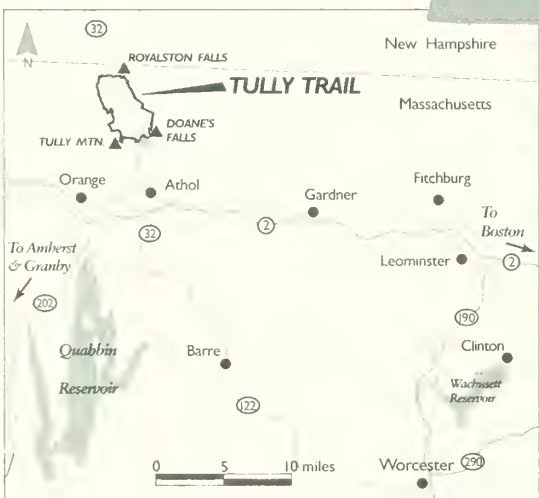
While the Tully Trail has opened new outdoor activities and views for locals and visitors alike, planning it galvanized the regional conservation community and brought together such diverse partners as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the dam at Tully Lake, and the Mount Grace Land



Royalston Falls, one of the many scenic stops along the soon-to-be-completed Tully Trail.

Conservation Trust. Even as it was being built, the trail was a catalyst for land protection that probably would not have happened otherwise.

"I get great satisfaction from thinking that a hundred years from now people will still be experiencing the landscape that we know today," says Dick, whose thoughts are now turning toward ongoing trail



Located in Central Massachusetts, the Tully Trail will offer a 20-mile loop trail through woodlands and across Tully Mountain.

maintenance. "The trail was first and foremost a grassroots effort, and I'm hoping that the trail will continue to inspire volunteerism." Projects to improve sections of the trail that are rocky, steep, or cross over wet areas will be scheduled in the coming months. **For more information about the Tully Trail and the Tully Lake Campground, contact the Central Regional Office at 978/840-4446 (central@ttor.org).**

HELP FINISH THE TRAIL! Get those hiking boots on! Volunteers are needed to complete the Tully Trail and perform trail maintenance. Contact Andy Ohlson, Tully Trail Coordinator, at 978/840-4446 (central@ttor.org).



PUBLIC ISSUES

The Trustees' Public Issues Committee, chaired by Jack Delaney and staffed by Wes Ward and Peg Wheeler, reviews Massachusetts bills related to The Trustees' mission and recommends those that should be supported or opposed. We focus on a relatively small number of important bills to maximize our legislative efforts. This legislative session, Trustees staff will present testimony at hearings on the following proposals:

Support: H. 4218, Food and Farmland Protection Act. Contains numerous initiatives facilitating marketing of Massachusetts agricultural products, encouraging agricultural development and preservation of farmland, and helping farmers succeed in the marketplace.

Oppose: H. 3029, S. 628, S. 629. Transfers various Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) functions to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and Mass. Highway Department. Reallocation or transfer of MDC functions should await thorough study and review with full opportunity for public participation.

Support: H. 1159, H. 3158, amending Conservation Restrictions and Agricultural Preservation Restriction legislation. Make APRs more financially attractive to farmers, improve procedures for the release of outdated restrictions, prevent the unintended extinguishment of restrictions, and prevent windfalls to APR landowners who sell house lots intended for family farm employees.

Support: S. 1716, amending Chs. 61, 61A, 61B. Introduces a crucial "look-back" period after the withdrawal of land from these "current use" programs. A proposal to develop the land during the period would trigger the municipality's right to purchase the property on the same terms as the developer.

Support: S. 1109. Raises public disclosure requirements for Art. 97 votes (votes that permit a change of use of public lands).

Members and supporters are encouraged to contact their local legislators about these bills. For more information on these bills, contact Peg Wheeler, Land Protection Specialist for The Trustees, at 978/524-1869 (mwheeler@ttor.org).

CALENDAR

UPDATED AND NEWLY SCHEDULED FALL EVENTS
LISTED IN DATE ORDER BY REGION



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Look for this symbol near events which offer volunteer opportunities!

CENTRAL REGION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 – 12 NOON to 4 PM

6th Annual Old Manse Family Day and Harvest Party

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

There was a hearty enjoyment...in observing the growth of the crook-necked winter squashes, from the first little bulb...until they lay strewn upon the soil...hiding their heads beneath the leaves...So wrote Nathaniel Hawthorne in his journal while living at The Old Manse. Join us for an afternoon exploring the Hawthornes' garden and playing 19th-century outdoor games and activities. FREE to all.

**SATURDAYS, SEPTEMBER 15, OCTOBER 20, & NOVEMBER 17
9 AM to NOON**

Pierce Park Pick-Up



Pierce Park at the Doyle Reservation, Leominster 978/840-4446

This is the beginning of an ongoing volunteer effort to enhance the newly created neighborhood park at the Doyle Reservation. Volunteers will work on maintenance tasks and improvement projects at the park. Bring hand pruners, lopping shears, and rakes, and wear work clothes. Bring your own brown bag lunch, we'll supply beverage and a goodie. FREE to all.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 – 9 AM to NOON

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8 – 9 AM to 2 PM

Terrific Times at Tully

Tully Campground & Tully Trail, Royalston 978/840-4446

Celebrate the completion of the Tully Trail on Sunday with a hike followed by a cookout at Tully Campground. On Monday, enjoy the fall scenery on a canoe ride up the Tully River to Long Pond followed by a hike up Jacobs Ridge and on to the the "Ledges" for lunch. Reservations necessary by September 29 for the cookout. Limited canoe rentals available for Tully River ride. Members and Nonmembers: adult \$15 for the cookout, child \$10.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 – 11 AM to 3 PM Rain Date October 21

Peaked Mountain Birthday Party

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446

Peaked Mountain turns two this year! Celebrate with us! Guided hikes, programs, and activities for all ages, and, of course, birthday cake! FREE to all.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 – 6 PM to 8 PM
An Old Manse Murder Mystery

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Join us for murder and mayhem playing a G. K. Chesterton Victorian parlor game. This family program offers more laughs than shudders. Mysteries begin every 20 minutes and last about 40 minutes. Reservations recommended. Members: adult \$5, child (6-12) \$2.50. Nonmembers: adult \$10, child (6-12) \$5.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3 – 5:30 PM

Rock House Dinner & Auction

Ye Olde Tavern Restaurant, Main Street, West Brookfield

An annual event not to be missed! Bid on goods and services from local businesses, artists, and craftspeople, and delicious baked goods from Friends of the Rock House. Cocktails at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6 PM. Auctioneer Joe Craig of J & S Enterprises will begin the auction at 7:00 PM. All proceeds benefit the Rock House Reservation. Please call Debby Werling at 978/840-4446 for reservations. \$15.00 per person includes dinner.

ISLANDS REGION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 – Please call for time

Moonlight Paddle

Long Point Wildlife Refuge, West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7392

Don't miss the last of the popular full moon canoe/kayak tours across Tisbury Great Pond! Space is limited and reservations are required. Adults over 16 only, please. Members: \$27. Nonmembers: \$30.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 – 1 PM to 3 PM

Fall Mushroom Meander

Menemsha Hills, Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7662

Join local mushroom hobbyist Phil Smith on a hike to find and identify mushrooms. Space is limited and reservations are required. Meet at the Menemsha Hills parking lot on North Road. FREE to all.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 – 1 PM to 4 PM

Menemsha Hills Rocks!

Menemsha Hills, Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7662

Charles Ratte, retired geologist, will lead a hike to the beach and discuss local geology and identify rocks. Meet at the Menemsha Hills parking lot on North Road. FREE to all.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1 – 4 PM to 5:30 PM

Sunset Stroll at Tisbury Great Pond

Long Point Wildlife Refuge, West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7662

Say goodnight to the sun and hello to the first of two full moons during the blue moon month of November. Meet at the winter entrance parking lot on Deep Bottom Road. FREE to all.

NORTHEAST REGION

SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER – 1 PM to 5 PM

Paine House Tours

The Paine House at Greenwood Farm, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Explore this newly opened first-period house museum and its archaeological treasures in celebration of Massachusetts Archaeology Week (Sept. 29 - Oct. 6). Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$5, child/student/senior \$3.

TUESDAYS IN SEPTEMBER – 10 AM

Long Hill Horticultural Lecture Series

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

Pre-registration is required for the following lectures. Refreshments served from 9:30 AM to 9:45 AM. Please call for details.

September 18 Alien Invasions: A Look at New England's Invasive
Exotic Species with Chris Mattrick

September 25 Everything but the Kitchen Sink: Recipes for
Great Mixed Borders with Louis Raymond

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 – 5 PM

Crane Beach Walks & Talks: The Sunset, Sand, and Botany! (Walk duration: Approximately 2 hours)

Crane Beach, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Enjoy the sunset as an ecologist leads you through the interior trails that crisscross the dunes. Learn to identify various plant life that lives in this unique environment. This 2-3 mile walk is moderately strenuous. Recommended for adults and children over 12. Pre-registration required. Members: FREE. Non-members: \$5 per car.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 – 6 PM to MIDNIGHT

Appleton Farms Farm Formal

Appleton Farms, Ipswich 978/356-5728

Celebrate and support the protection of Appleton Farms by attending the first Appleton Farms Farm Formal. Evening includes sheep herding demonstration, simulated livestock auction with auctioneers Fred Winthrop and Director Andy Kendall, country buffet dinner by Creed Caterers including fresh Appleton Farms produce, and dancing to the crowd-pleasing *Shine*. Space is limited and reservations are required. Attire: country festive! \$150 per person.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 – 1 PM**Paine House at Greenwood Farm Dedication Ceremony***The Paine House at Greenwood Farm, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Join us for this re-scheduled dedication ceremony. The opening marks the completion of a multi-year stabilization of this important late First Period (1620-1725) house. Tours will be offered until 5 PM. Light refreshments will be served. FREE to all.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 – 9 AM to 3 PM**Castle Hill Concours d'Elegance***Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Castle Hill hosts the 7th Annual Concours d'Elegance. The event is organized by the Vintage Sports Car Club of America and sponsored by the BMW Massachusetts Retailers. This exhibit of classic and vintage automobiles offers a delightful day out for everyone! Bring a picnic or food is available for purchase. For more information visit www.castlehillconcours.com. Members: adult \$15, child \$8. Nonmembers: adult \$20, child \$10.

SEPTEMBER 26 through SEPTEMBER 30 – 10 AM to 8 PM**Landry & Arcari Oriental Rugs and Carpeting Event & Lectures****Thursday, September 27 – 6:30 PM – The Art & History of Oriental Rugs****Sunday, September 30 – 12 NOON – Getting Comfortable with Antique Rugs***The Barn at Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Landry & Arcari, merchants of fine rugs and carpeting, will be offering a collection of fine oriental and contemporary rugs for sale at the Barn at Castle Hill. *Concours ticket-holders...be sure to visit the Casino Ballroom during the Concours d'Elegance for a preview of this event. A portion of the proceeds will benefit ongoing interior projects at the Great House.*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8 – 11 AM to 4 PM**Great House Guided Tours at Castle Hill***Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Tour the 59-room Stuart-style Great House designed by David Adler and learn the history of Castle Hill at this lovely time of year. Guided landscape tours offered at 11 AM and 1:30 PM. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$7, child/senior/student \$5.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 – 10 AM to 3 PM**Appleton Farms Family Fun Day***Appleton Farms, Ipswich 978/356-5728*

Celebrate the season of harvests and foliage in New England with family and friends of all ages at Appleton Farms! Enjoy hayrides, barnyard animals, children's activities, music, dancing, food, and more. Event and activities are FREE. Parking fee.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 – 10 AM**A Walk on the Hill****(Walk duration: Approximately 2 hours)***Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Enjoy the splendor of Castle Hill and the New England fall foliage with a guided landscape tour. Visit newly restored trails that span Castle Hill. This 3-mile walk is strenuous at times. Recommended for adults and children over 12. Meet at the lower parking lot at Castle Hill. Pre-registration required, space is limited. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$10 per car.

SOUTHEAST REGION**TUESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 11 to OCTOBER 9****WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 12 to OCTOBER 10****Mom & Me Mornings – 9:30 AM to 11 AM****Mom & Me Afternoons – 1 PM to 2:30 PM***Weir River Farms and Whitney & Thayer Woods, Hingham 781/821-2977*

Moms and dads are invited to bring their little one (ages 3½ - 5 years) to explore Weir River Farm and the fields and forests of Whitney & Thayer Woods. Simple activities will bring you and your child closer to the natural world. Sign up soon as space is limited to 8 parent/child pairs. Pre-register with Marge Balzotti at 781/821-2977. Members: \$25. Nonmembers: \$35. Second child in family is 50% off. Meet at parking lot at end of Turkey Hill Lane in Hingham.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 – 1 PM**Frederick Law Olmsted Walk***World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977*

Alan Banks of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline will lead a tour focusing on the history of the landscape and discuss the influence of Olmsted's work. Although his plan was never fully executed, Olmsted's sketches are apparent upon the landscape of this reservation. Pre-register with Marge Balzotti at 781/821-2977. Meet at the Ranger Station. Members and children under 12: FREE. Nonmembers: \$4.50.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – 12 NOON**Mushrooms!***Norris Reservation, Norwell 781/821-2977*

Join mushroom-enthusiast Elizabeth Morse of Cohasset for this educational walk through Norris Reservation. Meet at the parking lot at the Dover and West Street intersection. Pre-register with Marge Balzotti at 781/821-2977. FREE to all.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 – 9 AM to NOON**Volunteer Work Day***Whitney & Thayer Woods, Hingham 781/821-2977*

Learn by doing as you lend a hand with the maintenance of this reservation. There will be work for everyone to do along the Milliken Memorial Path and other trails. Lunch will be provided following the work. Please sign up by calling Marge Balzotti 781/821-2977. FREE to all.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 – 7:30 PM**An Evening at Turkey Hill***Turkey Hill, Hingham 781/821-2977*

Bring your family to Turkey Hill for children's activities at sunset followed by a campfire with s'mores. FREE to all.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 – 12 NOON to 3 PM**Family Day at the Farm***Weir River Farm, Hingham 781/821-2977*

Pony rides, old-time games, pie-eating contests, and a pig scramble are just some of the activities you and your family will enjoy on this day. The event will also have an educational component while you learn about the barnyard animals. Parking is in the lot at the end of Turkey Hill Lane in Hingham. Members: \$3. Nonmembers: \$5.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 – 12 NOON to 2 PM**South River Foliage Paddle***Contact Bill Stanton of NSRWA at 781/659-8168*

Trustees members are invited to join North and South Rivers Watershed Association members and Trustees volunteer Bob Costello on this South River leisurely autumn canoe trip. Bring your own canoe/kayak, life jackets, warm clothes, and picnic lunch. Limited to 10 canoes. Pre-registration required by calling Bill Stanton at telephone number above. Group meets at 11:30 AM at CVS parking lot on Rte. 139 in Marshfield to enter river at Francis Keville Bridge. FREE to all.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27 – 10 AM**Meet the Veterinarian***Weir River Farm, Hingham 781/821-2977*

The farm's local veterinarian will be conducting the annual visit and check-up of the barnyard animals. Find out what care is required for such animals as horses, sheep, and llamas. Bring your questions to this once-a-year opportunity! Members: FREE. Nonmembers \$2.

TUESDAYS, NOVEMBER 6 to DECEMBER 11 – 3:30 PM to 5 PM**WEDNESDAYS, NOVEMBER 7 to DECEMBER 12 – 3:30 PM to 5 PM****After School Nature Club***First 3 weeks at Whitney & Thayer Woods (Meet at parking lot at end of Turkey Hill Ln.)**Last 3 weeks at World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977*

Children will love learning about ecology in this program series featuring games, hikes, and nature projects. Each week will focus on a different topic with a conservation message. Tuesdays are for 6-year-old children; Wednesdays are for children ages 7 and 8. Groups are limited to 8 children. Pre-register with Marge Balzotti at 781/821-2977. Members: \$30. Nonmembers: \$45.

WESTERN REGION

DAILY THROUGH SEPTEMBER – 10 AM to 5 PM

Garden Ornament Exhibit at Naumkeag

Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413/298-3239

View classical and whimsical garden ornaments at Naumkeag, one of America's most beautiful gardens. Ornaments available for purchase. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$6, child (6-12) \$2.50.

SUNDAYS THROUGH SEPTEMBER – 9 AM to 12 NOON

Canoe Trip on the Housatonic River

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

Join a naturalist for an interpretive canoe trip on the Housatonic River. We provide the canoes. Wear appropriate clothing and bring binoculars. Pre-registration required. Members: adult \$15, child (10-16) \$10. Nonmembers: adult \$25, child (10-16) \$12.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 – 1 PM to 5 PM

Victorian Children's Day

The William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummington 413/634-2244

Bring the family and experience a Victorian summer day—children's games, activities, stories, and special children's tour of the Bryant Homestead and grounds. Refreshments available. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Adults accompanied by children: FREE. Member's child: \$5. Nonmember's child: \$8.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 – 9 AM to 12 NOON

Canoe Trip with Charles W.G. Smith

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

Join author and naturalist Charles W.G. Smith for a relaxing and informative tour of the Housatonic River by canoe. Pre-registration required. Members: adult \$15, child (10-16) \$10. Nonmembers: adult \$25, child (10-16) \$12.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 & SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Hawk Workshop

Friday evening lecture and slide show: 7:30 PM to 9 PM

Saturday field identification: 10 AM to 2 PM

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

In this two-day workshop, we will begin with an evening slide presentation on hawk identification and spend Saturday in the field. Dress warmly and bring a snack. Members: adult \$6, child (10-14) \$2. Nonmembers: adult \$10, child (10-14) \$3.

SATURDAYS, SEPTEMBER 15 through OCTOBER 13

10 AM to 2 PM

Hawks – Field Identification

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

Join western regional ecologist Don Reid for an introduction to field identification and the life histories of these fascinating birds of prey. Dress warmly and bring a snack. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$6, child (6-12) \$2.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – 7:30 PM

Observations from the Podium: What's Hot and What's Not in English Pottery

Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413/298-3239

Stuart Slavid, Vice President, Director of Fine Ceramics, and Director of English and Continental Furniture and Decorations at Skinner, Inc., will give an illustrated lecture on European Ceramics, including examples from the Naumkeag collection. Stuart can also be seen as an appraiser on PBS *Antiques Roadshow*. Space is limited, reservations required. Members: \$5. Nonmembers: \$10.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – 9 AM to 4 PM

Lichens Workshop with Phil May

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

This intensive daylong workshop will focus on identification of locally common leafy, shrubby, and hanging lichens. Participants will learn how to recognize a few genera on sight and how to go about keying to species. In the lab, we will dissect lichens to look at the algae and the fungi. Phil May is a widely recognized expert on lichens. Pre-registration required. Members & Nonmembers: \$100.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 – 9 AM to 4 PM

Fungi Workshop with Rick Van De Poll

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

Through a combination of lab exercises and field study, we will learn how to identify certain species and discuss the role of fungi as indicators of ecological conditions. Pre-registration required. Members & Nonmembers: \$100.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6 – 11 AM to 1 PM

Fall Foliage at Petticoat Hill

Petticoat Hill, Williamsburg 413/684-0148

Join us for this two-mile hike and learn the history of Petticoat Hill and the Mill River. Meet at the Petticoat Hill Road parking lot. This is a moderately strenuous hike; please bring lunch and plenty of water. FREE to all.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 – 12 NOON to 1 PM

Caring for Your Antiques

The William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummington 413/634-2244

Will Garrison, Western Region Historic Resources Manager, will explain the special techniques used to care for historic objects and will answer questions about your treasured items. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the Antique Appraisal following. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$2, child (12 & under): FREE.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 – 1 PM to 5 PM

2nd Annual Autumn Antique Appraisal

The William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummington 413/634-2244

Kimball's Auction and Estate Services of Easthampton will assess art, furniture, or other collectibles for an instant appraisal of your valuables. There is no entrance fee, but appraisals will cost \$5 for one to three items or \$7 for up to a limit of five items.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 – 1 PM to 3 PM

What's on the Other Side?

Chesterfield Gorge, Chesterfield 413/684-0148

Our exploration will take us both on and off the trail so bring some water, a snack, and be prepared for a moderately strenuous hike. Meet at the Gorge parking lot. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$3, child (6-12) free, includes one-day pass.

OCTOBER 19 through 23

Birding the Mid-Atlantic Coast

Join Regional Ecologist Don Reid and the Massachusetts Audubon Society's Berkshire Sanctuaries Director Rene Laubach on a birding quest of fall migrants along the mid-Atlantic coast. Please call Don at 413/229-8600 for more information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

8 PM to 9:30 PM

Night Hike – Owl Prowl

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

Listen and learn about the sounds of the night. Great horned owls are courting this time of year, and we may get lucky and find one of these amazing creatures. Dress warmly. Members: adult \$3, child (6-12) \$1. Nonmembers: adult \$6, child (6-12) \$2.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

Waterfowl Workshop

Friday evening lecture and slide show: 7:30 PM to 9 PM

Saturday field identification: 10 AM to 2 PM

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

This two-day workshop begins with an evening slide presentation, to prepare for the field workshop on Saturday. Some carpooling will be necessary. Dress warmly and bring a snack. Pre-registration required. Members: adult \$6, child (10-14) \$2. Nonmembers: adult \$10, child (10-14) \$3.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 – 10 AM to 2 PM

Fourth Annual Northwestern Connecticut Waterfowl Census

Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600

For more than fifty years, the Hoffman Bird Club in Pittsfield has been gathering data on migratory waterfowl in this area. This is a great opportunity to learn about identifying waterfowl, their life histories, and migratory habits. We will carpool from Bartholomew's Cobble. Volunteers welcome! FREE to all.



NOTEWORTHY

News & Shorts of All Sorts

Welcome to New Trustees Staff Members

Michelle Evans, Human Resources Manager
Craig Henkels, Senior Financial Analyst

Awards and Grants

The Trustees received a **2001 Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Award** for Phase 2 of the Casino Restoration Project at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate in Ipswich.

The Ipswich Historical Commission presented the **11th Annual Mary Conley Preservation Award** to The Trustees for our outstanding preservation efforts at the Paine House at Greenwood Farm, Appleton Farms, the Brown Cottage, and the Casino Complex at Castle Hill. Named for long-time Ipswich Town Historian Mary Conley, the award is given "to encourage and award restoration in the Ipswich Community."



A **Preservation Grant from the Essex National Heritage Commission** will help conserve the griffin sculptures at Castle Hill. The sculptures were a gift from employees of the Crane Co. to Mr. Richard T.

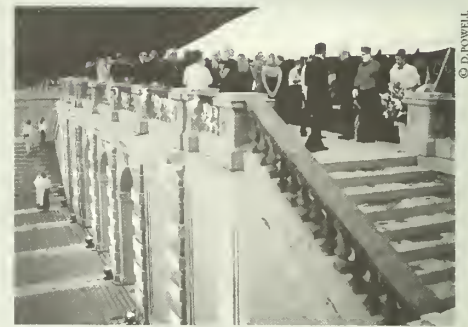
Crane, Jr. upon completion of the Great House in 1928. Paul Manship, the artist, worked out of New York and Gloucester, MA and is best known for his Art Deco *Prometheus* at Rockefeller Center.

Finally, Steve McMahon, Western Regional Director, accepted a \$2,000 donation on behalf of The Trustees from **Big Y Foods, Inc.**, Springfield, for work The Trustees has done in conserving land in Western Massachusetts. The money came from the proceeds of the Paul H. D'Amour Memorial Charity Golf Tournament.

▼ **Cape Poge 200th Anniversary a Huge Success** Great weather on May 26 contributed to a large and enthusiastic turnout for the 200th anniversary of the Cape Poge Lighthouse on Chappaquiddick Island, Martha's Vineyard, as over 500 visitors toured one of the world's few remaining wooden lighthouses.



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Casino Ball The Trustees, Cartier, and the Committee for the Casino Ball hosted a black-tie event celebrating the completion of the Casino wall restoration at Castle Hill in Ipswich. Proceeds from the Ball benefit on-going restoration projects at Castle Hill, a National Historic Landmark. If you haven't seen the newly restored Casino wall, consider taking one of the tours offered at the Crane Estate, listed on page 8.



© TTOR / M. RUSSELL

A New Look! When you visit our properties this fall, check out the new "look" of The Trustees' field staff! Assistant Superintendent Jim Freeborn, Regional Administrative Assistant Julie Phillips, and Ranger Bill Buckley model their new uniforms at Castle Hill in Ipswich.

▼ Hot Off the Press!

Publications Manager Kate Wollensak and Publications Assistant Catherine Trembicki check the proofs for the 2001 edition of The Trustees of Reservations *Property Guide*.



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VOLUNTEERISM

3rd Annual CONSERVATION WORKS!

Mark your calendars! The Trustees' third annual *Conservation Works!* statewide volunteer workday will be held this year on **Saturday, November 3, from 9 AM to 1 PM**. Last fall, more than 500 volunteers worked over 2,200 hours at 20 reservations. Projects ranged from raking leaves and improving trails to removing trash from shorelines. It's the perfect chance to improve your favorite reservation (or get to know a new one), meet other members, and enjoy some exercise in the fresh air.

Helping out is simple and doesn't require any special skills. First, look for the *Conservation*

Works! flyer in your mailbox in late September. Next, pick a project at one of the reservations listed on

the flyer and call the listed contact person to register for the work crew. Finally, show up at the reservation at 9 AM on November 3 ready to work. Bring a light snack, water, work clothes, and any tools suggested in the flyer. The Trustees will supply work gloves (yours to keep!) and all the guidance you need to make a difference.



© K. JOHNSON

Volunteers fight trail erosion at Noanet Woodlands in Dover.

HISTORY

The First Stewards of the William Cullen Bryant Homestead



Francis Howland Dawes,
Bryant's first caretaker.

Special tours of the caretakers and servants quarters are available throughout the summer, Saturdays and Sundays, 1-3 PM. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: adult \$5, child (6-12) \$2.50. The exhibit is on display during seasonal visiting hours and FREE to all. Call 413/634-2244 or e-mail bryanthomestead@ttor.org for more information.

Special tours show how the architecture accommodated the work force while giving the family total privacy. "When the Homestead was remodeled, great efforts were made to separate the servants quarters from those of the family," says Ellice Gonzalez, Historic Site Administrator. "Double doors, multiple staircases, and landscaping were among the tools used to afford privacy to the Bryant family and their guests."

If the staff were sometimes out of sight, they were seldom out of mind. From the planting of more than 1,300 fruit trees to the transformation of the original two-story colonial farmhouse into a large, three-story Victorian summer home, Bryant oversaw the details of daily life at the Homestead via a series of letters to his caretakers, who brought his vision of an idyllic 465-acre hillside farm to life. These letters, as well as the memoirs of Mary Dawes Warner, the daughter of the first caretaker, are the resources for an exhibit that reconstructs the lives of caretakers and displays the everyday tools they used.

In 1865, when the Homestead was remodeled, a large wing was added beyond the original kitchen to accommodate the staff—the caretaker, his family, his hired help, Bryant's servants, and guests' servants. Eventually almost one-half of the house became servants workspace or quarters.



As the owner and editor of the influential *New York Evening Post*, William Cullen Bryant wielded enough personal power to help elect Abraham Lincoln president. But when it came to managing the Bryant Homestead, his summer retreat in Cummington, MA, Bryant required an extensive staff. This season at the Bryant Homestead, a new exhibit and tour, *Every Day Matters: Caretakers and Servants at the Bryant Homestead*, explores the lives of the people who maintained this vast property.

Purchased in 1865 as a summer retreat for himself and his ailing wife Frances, Bryant used the Homestead as a vacation home for two months each year. Until separate caretaker quarters were built in 1931, the sole year-round occupants were a series of caretakers and their families.

THE SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY



Barbara Schwartz

Last year Barbara Schwartz of Newburyport established a charitable remainder unitrust to benefit The Trustees. Her reasons for doing so are most eloquently expressed in her own words:

Over the years my husband, Alvin, and I watched while many of the wilderness areas we loved were threatened. Thankful that many of them were saved by conservation groups and far-sighted communities, we wanted to contribute to this movement. When Alvin died, however, he left me no instructions, so I have proceeded on my own.

Recently, I established a charitable remainder unitrust to insure that our legacy to The Trustees of Reservations and other organizations is protected. At the same time, I still have an income from assets which are no longer in my estate. This seems to be the best way to give to our most cherished causes. I think Alvin would approve.

This generous planned gift will ultimately be added to The Trustees endowment. For Barbara, it offers many benefits including:

- No capital gains taxes on donated appreciated securities;
- Reduced estate and income taxes;
- Increased current income;
- Membership in *The Semper Virens Society*, our giving society for planned gift donors;
- The opportunity to secure the future preservation of Trustees properties and land protection efforts.

To learn how a charitable remainder trust can work for you, please contact Sarah Carothers at 978/524-1876 (scarothers@ttor.org).

Please let us know

- ☐ Please contact me about making a gift that provides me or another individual with income for life. DATE OF BIRTH: _____
- ☐ Please contact me about including The Trustees in my will or designating The Trustees as a beneficiary of IRA or retirement funds.
- ☐ I have remembered The Trustees in my estate plan and wish to join *The Semper Virens Society* in recognition of my planned gift.

Mr. Mrs.
Ms. Miss

First Middle Initial Last

Address

City / Town

State

Zip Code

()
Day telephone

E-mail

Please complete and return this form to:

Sarah Carothers, Director of Planned Giving

The Trustees of Reservations • 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530

Tel 978/524-1876 • scarothers@ttor.org

The Trustees of Reservations

Headquarters
Long Hill
572 Essex Street
Beverly, MA 01915-1530

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SPECIAL PLACES

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
Volume 9, No. 3
Summer 2001

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Going Places... SPECIAL PLACES!

Mountain Meadow Preserve Williamstown (175 acres/Est. 1998)



Landscapes such as this help Mountain Meadow Preserve live up to its name.

In time, meadow-dwelling bobolinks may return to the fields, where white-tailed deer currently visit to graze and bear their young. Gazing out across the field, visitors are rewarded with a fine view of the Taconic Range and nearby Williamstown.

After enjoying the meadow, follow a loop trail across some wetlands to the summit of the nearby hill. Cattails, marsh marigold, and rare sedge abound in these seepage swamps. Check the moist soil for tracks. Large animals, such as coyote and black bear, inhabit

Once part of a larger farm, Mountain Meadow Preserve supports a variety of intriguing habitats and offers spectacular mountain views, all of which can be enjoyed with a minimum of effort.

A mowed loop path leads visitors through approximately 20 acres of meadow. These former agricultural fields have turned into a mix of pasture grasses and flowers, creating an enticing habitat for butterflies. In time, meadow-dwelling

neighboring tracts of undeveloped land and may use the Preserve as a refuge. From the wetlands, the trail rises some 600 feet through a mixed forest of white pine and deciduous trees. Though the summit of the hill is forested with a variety of oak and hickory, you'll be able to enjoy views of the mountains and valleys of the Greylock range. Additional trails are located on the abutting Vermont portion of the property.

Mountain Meadow Preserve was the generous gift of Pamela B. Weatherbee, a local botanist and naturalist, who wanted to preserve the ecological integrity of the property. Additional lands were purchased in 2000. The Preserve is open free, year-round, daily, sunrise to sunset for bird watching, picnicking, hiking, cross-country skiing, and snow shoeing.



TRIP PLANNING DETAILS:

Williamstown, MA parking area: From the intersection of Rts. 2 and 7 in Williamstown, take Rt. 7 north for 1.7 mi. Turn right onto Mason St. and follow to entrance and parking (10 cars). **Pownal, VT parking area:** From the intersection of Rts. 2 and 7 in Williamstown, follow Rt. 7 north 1.7 mi., turn right onto Sand Spring Rd., then bear right onto Bridges Rd. Follow

for 0.3 mi., turn left onto White Oaks Rd., and follow for 1.1 mi. when road becomes dirt. Continue for 0.4 mi., bear left at fork onto Benedict Rd., and continue 0.1 mi. to entrance and parking (8 cars) on left.